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REPORT

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Periodical and newspaper as indicated

AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENTS IN ALBANIA

AGRICULTURAL PROGRESS UNDER ECONOMIC PLANNING

Warsaw, Zycie Gospodarcze 16-31 Oct 49

Starting with 1947, Albania adopted economic planning. As a result of agrarian reform, peasants received 320,000 hectares of land, 500,000 clive trees, and nearly 16,000 head of livestock. Agriculture began to develop rapidly. The area under crops in 1948 amounted to 317,000 hectares, or 143.4 percent of the land cultivated in 1938. The total grain harvested in 1948 amounted to 266,200 tons, exceeding the 1938 level by 32.3 percent.

In 1938, Albanian farms possessed only four tractors. Now there are seven machine tractor stations with 134 tractors and 3,480 farm machines.

At present there are 56 agricultural producers' cooperatives comprising 2,428 families. They have two tractors, 43 movers, and 1,190 plows. Moreover, they used the services of the machine tractor stations, which plowed about 40 percent of the cooperatives' land under crops in 1948. The yield on cooperative farms is about 30 percent higher than that on individual farms. Agricultural producers' cooperatives achieved the plan for 1948 by 106 percent.

The Albanian government gives aid to the agricultural producers' cooperatives in the form of credits at reduced rates and lower tax rates. It also provides farm machinery and equipment.

State farms in Albania comprised 5,294 hectares in 1948, or 1.7 percent of all the arable land. State farms had about 100,000 head of livestock.

The Albanian Two-Year Plan for 1949 and 1950 calls for agricultural investments in 1949 which will amount to 13.7 percent of the total investments for the netional economy. Agricultural investments, actual and planned are as follows: 1947 -- 188,600,000 lek, 1948 -- 288,000,000 lek, 1949 -- 271,900,000 lek, and 1990 -- 296,300,000 lek. (One Soviet ruble is worth 9.44 lek.)

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To increase domestic consumption and exports of agricultural products, the Two-Year Plan calls for an increase in the area under cultivation to 332,000 hectares in 1949 and 357,000 hectares in 1950. In 1950, 245,800 hectares will be under bread grains, 33,600 under industrial crops, 63,300 under forage crops, and 14,900 under vegetable crops. Taking 1948 as the base year, the index of production for basic crops will be as follows:

Commodity	1949	<u>1950</u>
Wheat Corn Oats Cottcn Sugar beets Vegetables Potatoes	116 103 159 231 109 109	125 112 161 257 122 129 150

Large-scale soil-improvement projects will be undertaken in 1949.

In 1949 the number of tractors at machine tractor stations should increase to 217. These should cultivate 56,600 hectares of land, or 16 percent of the total land under cultivation. State farms in 1949 will seed 7,100 hectares and have 72 tractors, in comparison with 42 tractors in 1948.

The plan also calls for an increase in livestock from 408,000 head in 1948 to 437,000 in 1950. Percentage increases in livestock over 1948 will be as follows:

Туре .	<u>1949</u>	1950
Cattle	103	106
Sheep	103	121
Hogs	160	240

AFFORESTATION IN 1949

Warsaw, Zycie Gospodarcze 16-31 Oct 49

An area of 895 hectares has been assigned for afforestation in 1949 in Albania. The purpose is primarily flood control and the prevention of soil erosion.

INCREASE IN FARM ANIMALS

Prague, Hospodar:: 9 Nov 50

The number of agricultural animals in Albania has increased considerably over 1949. This year there are 198 percent more cattle, 142 percent more horses, 218 percent more hogs, and 900 percent more sheep and goats than last year.

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